

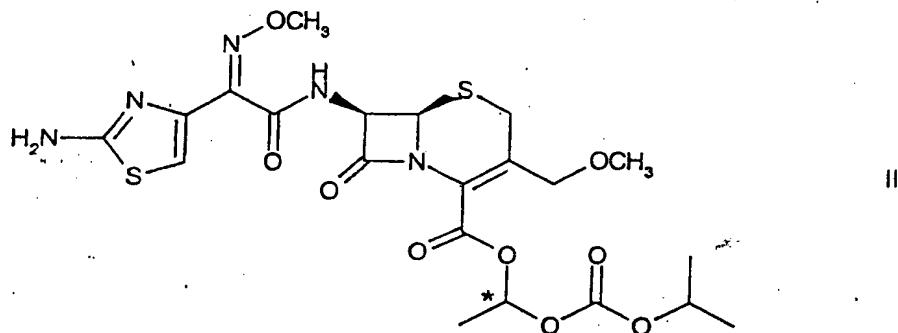
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

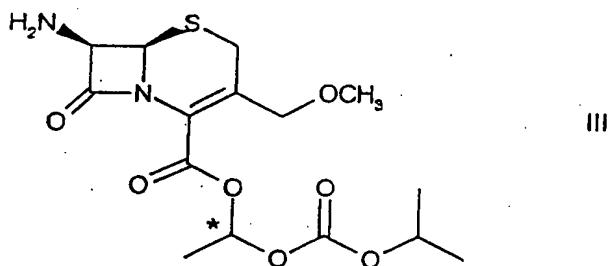
**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-29. (cancelled).

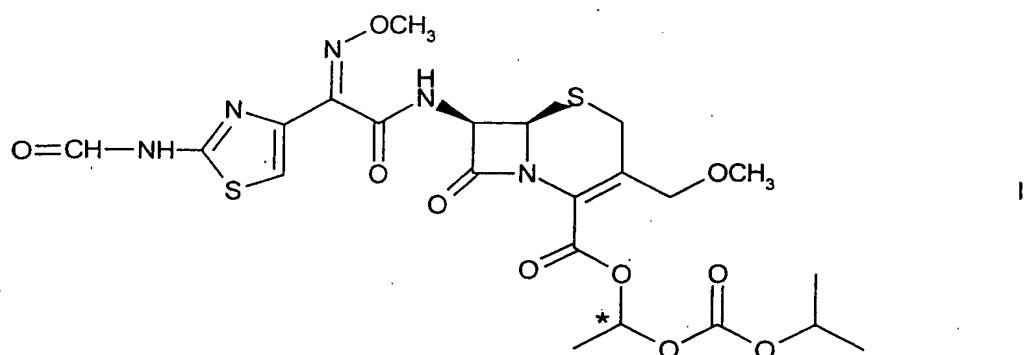
Claim 30. (previously presented) A process for preparing a mixture of diastereoisomers of cefpodoxime proxetil of Formula II



in a diastereoisomeric ratio B/(A+B) of 0.4 to 0.7, wherein B is the more apolar of the two diastereoisomers, wherein the chiral center is marked with a (\*), said process comprising  
(i) acylating a compound of Formula III



with Z-(2-formamidothiazol-4-yl)-methoxyimino acetic acid, to form a mixture of diastereoisomers of a compound of Formula I



- (iii) dissolving the mixture of diastereoisomers of a compound of Formula I in a solvent selected from the group consisting of a nitrile, a ketone, and mixtures thereof, to form a solution, wherein the amount of nitrile is 2-15 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I, and the amount of ketone is 3-15 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I;
- (iv) treating the solution with water to induce precipitation of the compound of Formula I in crystalline form, wherein the amount of water in the case of a nitrile solvent is 5-80 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I, and the amount of water in the case of a ketone solvent is 10-40 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I;
- (v) isolating the compound of Formula I in crystalline form; and
- (vi) hydrolyzing the compound of Formula I in crystalline form to form a diastereoisomeric mixture in a ratio of B/(A+B) of 0.4 to 0.7 of a compound of Formula II.

Claim 31. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 30 wherein the diastereoisomeric mixture is in a ratio of B/(A+B) of 0.5 to 0.6.

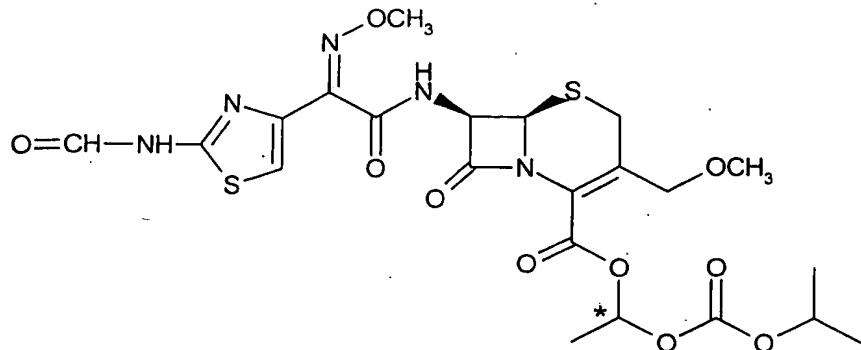
Claim 32. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 30 wherein the nitrile is selected from the group consisting of acetonitrile, propionitrile, butyronitrile, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 33. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 32 wherein the nitrile is acetonitrile.

Claim 34. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 30 wherein the ketone is selected from the group consisting of acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 35. (previously presented) The process according to Claim 34 wherein the ketone is acetone.

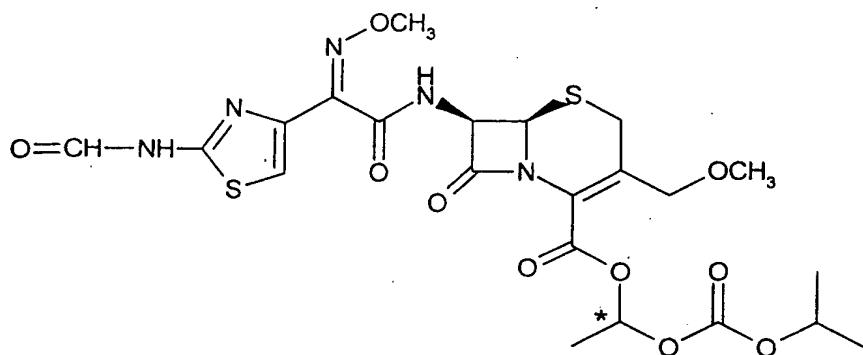
Claim 36. (previously presented) A process for preparing a compound of Formula I in crystalline form



said process comprising:

- (a) dissolving a compound of Formula I in a solvent selected from the group consisting of a nitrile, a ketone, and mixtures thereof, to form a solution, wherein the amount of nitrile is 2-15 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I, and the amount of ketone is 3-15 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I;
- (b) treating the solution with water to induce precipitation of the compound of Formula I in crystalline form, wherein the amount of water in the case of a nitrile solvent is 5-80 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I, and the amount of water in the case of a ketone solvent is 10-40 ml, based on 1 gm of the compound of Formula I; and
- (c) isolating the compound of Formula I in crystalline form.

Claim 37. (new): A compound having Formula I



as a diastereoisomeric mixture in crystalline form having a diastereoisomeric ratio B/(A+B) is 0.4 to 0.7, wherein B is the more apolar of the two diastereoisomers, wherein the chiral center is marked with a (\*).

Claim 38. (new): The compound according to Claim 37 wherein the diastereoisomeric ratio B/(A+B) is 0.5 to 0.6.

Claim 39. (new) The compound according to Claim 37 which is crystalline 7-[2-(2-formylaminothiazol-4-yl)-2-(Z)-(methoxyimino)acetamido]-3-methoxymethyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid-1-(isopropoxycarbonyloxy)ethyl ester.